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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/730,840	12/09/2003	Douglas Horn	HORD / 06	5189

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WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, LLP
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441 VINE STREET
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

EXAMINER

AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/19/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/730,840	Applicant(s) HORN, DOUGLAS	
	Examiner Rasha S. AL-Aubaidi	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-19 and 21-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-19 and 21-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This in response to amendment filed 05/14/2007. No claims have been added. Claims 4 and 20 have been canceled. Claims 1, 5-9, 13, 17, 21-25 and 29 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 5-19 and 21-32 are still pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 5-19 and 21-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kipust (US PAT # 6,002,427) in view of Gokcebay et al. (US PAT # 5,552,777).

Regarding claim 1, Kipust teaches a lockout system for preventing a person from accessing electronic information through an interface device of a computer (see abstract and col. 2, lines 24-30) comprising: a signal cable (reads on connector 117, see col. 4, lines 41-42) configured for being operably coupled at one end with a signal port and at the other end with an interface device of a computer (PC 102, Fig. 1), the signal cable configured to pass electronic information back and forth between the interface device and the port; a locking device (reads on sensor 116, see col. 4, lines 35-53) including a relay having a set of contacts, the set of contacts coupled in-line with

the signal cable, the relay when actuated, disabling the signal cable to prevent electronic information from passing between the interface device and the port; a processor (reads on controller 118, see Fig. 1 and col. 4, lines 35-37) coupled to the locking device, the processor configured to selectively actuate and de-actuate the locking device thereby disabling and enabling the signal cable (see for example, col. 5, lines 1-6 and lines 44-47).

Kipust does not specifically teach the use of "a plug lock".

However, Gokcebay teaches the use of plug lock as disclosed in col. 3, lines 6-10.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was to incorporate the use of a plug lock as, taught by Gokcebay, into the Kipust system in order to provide the ultimate in high security and flexibility. Plug lock is an easy method to secure a device; it can be added and/or removed at any time desired.

Claim 17 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 2 recites "the signal cable is a telephone cable operable for carrying modem signals and is configured for being connected between a telephone port and a

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modem to prevent access to prohibited information over a phone line". Claim 2 limitations are obvious, since Fig. 1 of Kipust shows that PC 102 is actually connected PSTN 114.

Claims 3 and 18-19 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 2.

For claims 5 and 21, see Kipust col. 4, lines 20-50.

For claims 6, 8, 22 and 24, see Gokcebay Fig. 7.

Claims 7 and 23 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

For claims 9-10 and 25-26, this reads on the communication module 306 in Fig. 3 and corresponding text of Kipust.

For claims 11 and 27, see col. 4, lines 20-45 of Kipust.

Claims 12 and 28 recite "the reading device is a touch screen". This limitation is obvious. One can chose the reading device to be any type of device.

Claims 13 and 29 recite “the processor includes a memory, the processor is configured to store user authentication information, compare the input received through the reading device to the store user authentication information, and energize and de-energize the relay in response to the comparison”. For the claimed “memory” please see col. 6, lines 41-49” of Kipust.

For claims 14 and 30, see Kipust col. 4, lines 54-67 through col. 5, lines 1-6.

For claims 15 and 31, see col. 12, lines 59-65 of Kipust.

Claims 16 and 32 recite “the locking device includes a web-based device coupled to the processor, the web-based device to allow a user to disable and enable the signal cable using a computer”. See Fig. 1 of Kipust.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488.

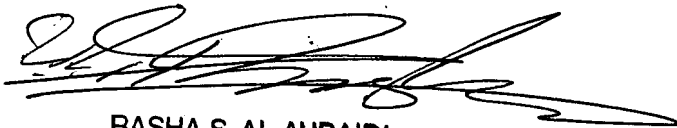
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rasha S. Al-Aubaidi', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

RASHA S. AL-AUBAIDI
PATENT EXAMINER

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07/02/2007